

Offered by Councillor MICHAEL P. ROSS

## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINE



### AN ORDINANCE REGARDING YOUTH CRIME STATISTICS REPORTING IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

*WHEREAS,* The Boston City Council is committed to constantly exploring initiatives to make our community a safer place and to improving youth development opportunities; and,

*WHEREAS,* There have been recent reports of an alarming trend affecting our neighborhoods and youth in the City. After a four year-old was shot in Roxbury, a five month-old was harmed in Mattapan, a seven year-old was injured while playing in Mission Hill and a three month-old was almost injured by a bullet in Dorchester it is clear that no one escapes the horrors of violence; and,

*WHEREAS,* On September 18, 2008 the Boston Globe reported that the number of shooting victims seventeen years old and younger has almost tripled from 2002. In 2002 there were 23 and 67 in 2007. Last year alone the Globe reports that there were 53 seventeen year-olds and younger victimized by Boston crime; and,

*WHEREAS,* These reports require a multi-faceted approach and any attempt to combat this horrific trend requires continuous, updated reporting. The Boston Police Department already provides crime statistic reporting, but more can be done to educate City officials on the number of crimes involving youth. Increased reporting will assist in developing responsible, accurate responses to these crimes.  
*NOW, THEREFORE*

*Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston, as follows:*

#### *Section 1.*

CBC Chapter XI, section 11-1.1 is hereby amended by inserting immediately after the words "following categories:", in the first sentence of the first paragraph, the following:- "shooting incidents and homicides involving minors as victims and/or perpetrators categorized by age and specifying whether the minor involved was the victim and/or perpetrator,".

#### *Section 2.*

The provisions of these sections shall be effective immediately upon passage.